UTTOXETER
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health
and of the Senior Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1955

AUGUST, 1956

R. W. HOURD & SON, LTD., MILL STREET, STAFFORD

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ANNUAL REPORT

Council Offices,
Holly Dene,
High Street,
Uttoxeter, Staffs.

August, 1956.

To the Chairman and Members of the Uttoxeter Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Herbert and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Uttoxeter Urban District for the year 1955.

This report is prepared on the lines indicated by the Ministry of Health Circular 17/55 (England), dated the 23rd November, 1955.

Vital Statistics

In the Uttoxeter Urban District the birth rate, 12.7 per 1,000 estimated population, although lower than the birth rate in your district during 1954, 13.4 per 1,000 estimated population, and is lower than the average rate of the 12 previous years, 17.9 per 1,000 estimated population, was lower than the birth rate of 15 per 1,000 population with regard to the country as a whole. On the other hand, the death rate for your district during 1955, 12.7 per 1,000 estimated population, although higher than the death rate for 1954, which was 11.16 per 1,000 was higher than the death rate, 11.7 per 1,000 population, for England and Wales.

The infant mortality rate is 31.2 per 1,000. The increase in the Infant Mortality Rate was due to the increase in the number of infants under one year and under four weeks dying from birth malformations, broncho-pneumonia and prematurity.

The stillbirth rate is 0.26 per 1,000. This rate has increased and it is the 4th lowest recorded in the last thirteen years. The causes in this area are: (1) Complicated labour ; (2) maternal disease ; (3) toxemia (maternal).

During the year 23 babies were vaccinated—24% of the babies born that year were vaccinated, a decrease of 11%.

Ninety-six babies were born during 1955—61 were born at their own homes and 35 in Maternity Homes outside your area, mainly at Ashbourne Maternity Home.

Eleven adults were re-vaccinated during 1955.

The Effective Reproductive Rate for England and Wales has as yet not been published but for this District is 0.91. This means there is a slight increase in the population.

During 1955, 53 children under 3 years of age received protective inoculation against Whooping Cough.

16.4% of children (0-3 years) have therefore received this form of protection in the second year of this new scheme.

Housing

Since the end of the war this Council has erected 360 houses, and others (28) are in course of erection. The number of houses constructed by this Council for aged people before the war and since are 18 and 12. The number of houses built and under construction during the year is recorded in the body of this report.

In general, the Council's policy has been to house as many married couples with children who are lodgers, as possible, and to re-house those living in accommodation which falls below modern housing standards.

Water Supply

I have given a brief resume of the position in 1955 in the section entitled " Water supply."

Public Health and Clean Food Exhibition

During 1955 no actual exhibition was held ; the card regarding dogs in food shops was displayed, but in fewer shops.

Conclusion

I personally record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their kindness to me since I became the Medical Officer of Health, and to all the officials of the Council who gave me their support and help in compiling this Annual Report.

1. The percentage of children under 4 and from 4—14 years has decreased with regard to Diphtheria Inoculation.
2. The total percentage for all children (all ages) immunised, has decreased from 84.6% to 79%.
3. A slight decrease in average number of persons per house.
4. A decrease in the Vaccination Rate. I feel a Vaccination Drive is a necessity.
5. The Estimated Population for Mid-June, 1955, is slightly below the actual population by 60.
6. Through the courtesy of Mr. S. Elkes, J.P., and Mr. Smith I have been able to include a local weather summary.
7. It is with deep regret that I have to inform you that the Registrar General has decided not to supply certain details for 1955 which include :—
 (i) Birth Rate, Death Rate and Analysis of Mortality for England and Wales and for certain sections of the community.
 (ii) Also for case rates for Infectious Diseases for the same sections of the Country.
 I have been able to compile certain of the above details from Weekly and Quarterly Returns.
8. 63.5% of Births in own home.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Herbert, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. M. W. BATTERSBY.

Health and Highways Committee, 1955

Chairman :
Councillor J. R. ODDIE, M.B., Ch.B.

Members :

Councillor	H. Bowring	Councillor	J. A. C. Maule†
,,	D. Crutchley*	,,	T. Orme
,,	A. O. Davies	,,	W. Preston
,,	G. H. DeVille	,,	W. Rushton
,,	S. H. Elkes, J.P.	,,	H. J. Ryder†
,,	G. Elliott, J.P.	,,	S. H. Stevenson†
,,	Mrs. D. Herbert	,,	C. J. Tunnicliffe
,,	G. J. W. Moseley, J.P.*	,,	H. Thomas

**Denotes*—Retired May, 1955. †*Denotes*—From May, 1955.

Medical Officer of Health

A. W. M. BATTERSBY, L.R.C.P. and S., D.P.H.

SURVEYOR

S.S. PROUD, M.I.Mun.E., A.R.C.S., Cert.R.S.I.

SANITARY INSPECTORS

Senior—

A. F. WARD, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Certified Food Inspector.

Additional—

H. NUTTER, M.S.I.A., Certified Food Inspector.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1955

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area	(Acres) 3,351
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population (Mid-1955)	7,580
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1955 according to Rate Books	2,456
Rateable Value	£43,244
Sum represented by the product of 1d. rate ...	£162 0s. 0d.
Number of persons per acre	2.23
Number of houses per acre	0.73
Average number of persons per house ...	3.06
Number of Council Houses including 14 cottage property owned by the Council .	794

The Urban District Council of Uttoxeter consists of a prosperous country town, which, by reason of its central position, is called on to provide the marketing, shopping and other facilities for the large agricultural, and more especially, dairying countryside which surrounds it. There is, therefore, in your district an

important Cattle Market, and each week a large open-air produce market is set up in the Market Square of the town. These markets are well attended, so that there is an influx of numerous people into your district on market days and, to a lesser extent, on Saturdays.

Your district contains four large secondary schools, and, as educational policy has been to centralise this stage of education, an increasing number of scholars are brought into town by 'bus on each school day.

In Uttoxeter there is no Nursery School. I feel the provision of a Nursery School would be an asset and would be appreciated by the mothers of children from 3 years to 5 years. I feel a school for about 100 children could easily be filled, if a suitable site could be found.

In the town there are ~~520~~ 530 children between 0 and under 5—0—2 years, 223 ; 2—3 years, 100 ; 3—5 years, 207.

In addition to an extensive agricultural implement factory, there are situated in your District a large and up-to-date biscuit factory, an important manufacturing dairy, a laundry and a gas works, all of which provide for most of the male and female labour in your district, and also, to some extent a corset factory.

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Live Births (Factor—1.01)	*Males*	*Females*	*Total*
Legitimate	46	44	90
Illegitimate	3	3	6
	49	47	96

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	12.7
Adjusted Birth Rate	12.8

Stillbirths	*Males*	*Females*	*Total*
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	22.4
	(England and Wales—23.1)
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	0.26

Deaths (Factor—1.02)	*Males*	*Females*	*Total*
	56	41	97

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	12.7
Adjusted Death Rate	12.9
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	Nil

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	1	—	1

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age

All infants per 1,000 live births	31.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	22.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	166.6

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks old

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Legitimate	1	—	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)			12
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (all ages)			5
Deaths from Cerebro Spinal Meningitis			Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under one year)			1

Principal Causes of Death
Uttoxeter Urban District, 1955

Cause of Death	*Males*	*Females*	*Total*
Leukeamia	—	1	1
Heart Diseases	15	13	28
Diseases of Vascular System	8	5	13
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	3	5	8
Cancer	8	4	12
Pneumonia (Secondary)	—	2	2
Bronchitis	7	5	12
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	1	3
Influenza	1	—	1
Surgical Tuberculosis	—	—	—
Other Infectious Diseases	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	—	—
Maternal Causes	—	—	—
Congenital Malformities	—	—	—
Road Accidents	1	—	1
Suicide	2	—	2
Fatal Accidents	2	—	2
Diseases of Prostate	1	—	1
Nephritis	—	—	—
Diseases of Stomach	2	4	6
All Other Causes	4	1	5
	56	41	97

Of the total deaths—75 died at home.
22 died in hospitals.

Uttoxeter Urban District Council
Vital Statistics for the Year 1955 and the Twelve Previous Years

Year	Rates per 1,000 Estimated Population.			Rate per 1,000 Live Births.
	Birth Rate	Stillbirth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Death Rate
1955	**12.7**	**0.26**	**12.7**	**31.2**
1954	13.4	0.13	11.16	9.9
1953	16.2	0.94	11.36	36.9
1952	14.9	0.94	12.36	16.5
1951	13.4	0.37	12.4	16.5
1950	13.9	0.40	12.41	17.6
1949	16.53	0.536	11.82	24.39
1948	20.33	1.24	12.36	87.84
1947	22.80	0.43	14.20	62.89
1946	21.20	0.72	11.10	55.17
1945	21.15	0.15	14.24	28.57
1944	21.35	0.15	9.40	13.79
1943	19.47	1.02	10.17	37.31

NEO-NATAL DEATH RATE

For England and Wales—17.3.
For Uttoxeter—10.4.

Cancer Deaths

Noted below are the total annual deaths from Cancer according to sex with respect to your district during 1955 and the twelve previous years. The percentage which these Cancer deaths formed of the total deaths each year is also shown.

Cancer of Lungs : Three Males.

Year	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*	*Percentage of total deaths*
1955	**8**	**4**	**12**	**12.3%**
1954	1	9	10	11.9%
1953	11	4	15	17.8%
1952	9	7	16	17.3%
1951	5	5	10	10.7%
1950	6	9	15	8.7%
1949	2	6	8	9.2%
1948	11	7	18	20%
1947	8	7	15	15%
1946	5	6	11	15%
1945	7	4	11	12%
1944	4	8	12	19%
1943	5	4	9	13%

Site of Cancer :—

Cancer of Lungs	3 (Males)
Cancer of Breast	3 (Females)
Cancer of Stomach	Nil.
Cancer of Gall Bladder	Nil.
Cancer of Ovary	1 (Female)
Cancer of Bladder	1 (Male)
Others	4 (Males)

Cancer Death Rate (England and Wales)—15.7 per 1,000.
Cancer Death Rate (Uttoxeter)—1.58 per 1,000.

Population Estimates for Mid 1955

(Published by permission of the Registrar General)

Total Population	7580
Children—Aged 0 to 4 years	~~428~~ 530 (Health Visitor)
Aged 4 to 12 years	1470 (Schools)
Old People (Pension Age), obtained from a house to house survey	990

1951 Census—7440

Population (England and Wales), 1955—44,441,000.

Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates and Analysis of Mortality 1955

Details for England and Wales given where known

	Uttoxeter Urban District	*England and Wales*
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—		
Births		
Live Births	12.7	15.0
Still Births	0.26	0.35
Deaths		
All Causes	12.7	11.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	0.001
Whooping Cough	—	0.1
Diphtheria	—	0.02
Tuberculosis	—	12.2
Influenza	0.1	5.6
Smallpox	—	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	0.05
Pneumonia	0.26	4.2
Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—		
Deaths		
All Causes under 1 year of age	31.2	24.9
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 1 year of age	~~10.04~~ 10.4	20.8

For England and Wales :—

Births	664,711
Still Births	15,748
Deaths	518,657

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities

In so far as your District is concerned, laboratory facilities were available during 1955 in the County Town of Stafford, some 14 miles distant. Specimens and samples submitted to these laboratories for investigation were transmitted mainly by 'bus both by the Medical Practitioners in your District and by this Department.

Ambulance Facilities

(An Area Health Function)

During 1955 a 24 hours service has been maintained by the Staffordshire County Ambulance Service.

There are six ambulance cars stationed at Uttoxeter—two can be adapted for sitting cases, also one Civil Defence Ambulance.

Since October, 1951, the new ambulance station at Heath House has been in use—three vehicles are kept there, three are garaged each night at Messrs. Atkey's Garage, and one at Messrs. Richardson's.

The Uttoxeter area ambulance staff, consists of a personnel of 17 men, and the day is divided into three periods of eight hours.

One ambulance car was replaced during 1955 by a new Bedford Ambulance (Sitting Case).

Home Nursing

(An Area Health Function)

In your area there are two general nurses, one full-time midwife and one full-time Health Visitor.

The service is efficient and is avilable to the residents in the Urban area, by whom it is generally appreciated. The Health Visitor was in attendance during the year at all sessions held at the various clinics at the centre, and also present at the school medical inspections, which were continued at the schools in the Urban area during 1955.

HOSPITALS, TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

Hospitals

There are no Hospitals in the Uttoxeter Urban District, and, as in previous years, the arrangements in this connection were as follows :—

Infectious Diseases.—During 1955 the majority of the cases of infectious diseases were treated at Bucknall Isolation Hospital, which is under the Stoke Regional Hospital Board. When accommodation is not available, the cases were admitted to Derby Isolation Hospital.

General Medical and Surgical Cases.—Patients suffering from medical and surgical conditions on account of which they required to be admitted to hospital went mainly to the infirmaries at Derby, Stoke-on-Trent, Stafford and Burton-on-Trent. Whereas, under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary at Derby was included in the Sheffield Hospital Region, the other three infirmaries referred to above were situated in the Birmingham Hospital Region. Nevertheless, it is possible for patients from Uttoxeter to be admitted to any of these hospitals irrespective of the administrative boundary.

Tuberculosis Beds.—Provision for the institutional treatment of patients suffering from this disease is the responsibility of the appropriate Regional Hospital Board. The shortage of nursing staff, and especially of staff trained and willing to nurse this type of case, has been reflected in the waiting lists for sanatoria and in the difficulty which medical practitioners have experienced in having such cases removed from their homes. Your district has, of course, not suffered any more in this connection than other parts of the country. It is to be hoped, however, that the improvement in the recruitment of nurses which is now taking place will very shortly result in some alleviations of this very serious state of affairs.

Maternity and Gynaecological Cases.—These cases are mainly admitted to the Derbyshire Hospital for Women, the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent, the Ashbourne Maternity Home and to Burton Maternity Unit.

CLINICS

Tuberculosis Dispensary.—As the Local Centre was closed in 1953, the patients now attend the Stafford Centre by appointment. All are visited in their homes by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor. Some attend the Burton Clinic.

Minor Ailments Clinic.—The Local Education Authority, the Staffordshire County Council, during 1955 continued to provide a Minor Ailments Clinic.

This clinic is held at the New Uttoxeter Centre at Heath House on a Friday morning.

Infant Welfare Centre.—The Staffordshire County Council during 1955, as the local Health Authority, provided an Infant Welfare Centre in Uttoxeter, at which sessions were held each Friday afternoon at Heath House Centre.

Ante-Natal Clinic.—An Ante-Natal Clinic is provided in your district in a similar manner to the Infant Welfare Centre by the Staffordshire County Council. Sessions are held fortnightly on Friday afternoons. A midwife attends each Session; also at Heath House Centre.

Dental Clinic.—Every Saturday Morning a Dental Session is held for the treatment of school children, expectant mothers and

nursing mothers. This clinic serves the Urban and Rural Districts of Uttoxeter. Urgent cases can be sent besides the cases arranged to attend for treatment. This clinic is held in the New Uttoxeter Centre, Heath House.

Home and Domestic Help Service (Area Health Function).—The year under review was the eighth complete year during which a Home and Domestic Help Service was in operation in Uttoxeter. The service is conducted by the local Health Authority as part of its Domestic Help Service provided under permissive powers deriving from Section 29 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

This is one of the services provided under the National Health Service Act for which the local health authority, with the approval of the Minister, may recover from persons availing themselves of it, such charges (if any) as the authority considers reasonable, having regard to the means of those persons. This entails, in those cases in which the applicant states that he is unable to pay the full amount, an assessment of income and the application of a scale which results in the charge (if any) which is made for the services of a Help, related to what the individual is able to pay. The outcome of this was that, while those who could afford to pay for the service were asked to do so, the services of a Help did not require to be foregone by any genuine case which required a Help simply because of financial considerations. In some cases no charge is made for this service. There are thirteen part-time Helpers, and seventeen cases have been assessed in 1955.

The service has been a success and is appreciated by those who make use of it—the demand is still growing.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Public Cleansing—Refuse Collections

During 1955, as in previous years, the collection and disposal of refuse continued to be dealt with in your district. A controlled tip was in use throughout the year, and as a result of careful attention to the method of tipping, along with the use of a sufficiency of covering material, the state of the tip was generally satisfactory, and no serious nuisance arose. The tip is sited at Bramshall (disused Marl Pit).

The cost of removal of domestic and trade waste has increased. The number of houses and business premises dealt with are 2,456 and 263. Owing to labour shortage and sickness, it was not possible to provide a weekly service, and distance to tip plays a part. A larger vehicle is now in use ; this has helped to improve the rate of collection.

Sanitary Inspectors' Department

By arrangement between the Uttoxeter Rural and Urban District Councils, your Sanitary Inspectors have since 1st January, 1955 carried out all inspectorial duties for the two areas.

The arrangement has been most successful, resulting in close liaison between the appropriate departments.

Sanitary Inspections—Summary of Visits

Inspection of houses for defects	39
Re-inspection of houses as to repair	53
Inspection of Tents, Vans and Sheds	28
Verminous and Dirty Premises	10
Visits to houses (Sec. 11, Housing Act, 1936) and Survey	211
Sanitary Accommodation and Drainage work	18
Food preparing Premises—Ice Cream	12
Other Foods	15
Cafes	8
Licensed Premises	11
Inspections of Milk Supply	5
Inspections under Milk and Dairies Regulations	26
Slaughterhouses and Slaughtermen's Licences	21
Meat Inspection	691
Infectious Diseases	7
Disinfections and Fumigations	9
Ditches and Water Courses	26
Refuse Receptacles	21
Rodent Control	32
Factories (including Bakehouses)	41
Shops Act	35
Smoke Observations	9
Other Nuisances	11
Miscellaneous Visits	10
TOTAL	1,349

Notices Served

Notices served during Year	*No. Served*	*No. Complied with (Served 1955 and previously)*
Informal notices and letters as to general matters	21	18
Verbal notices as to general matters	32	32
Informal notices to provide dustbins	12	12
Statutory Notices :		
(*a*) Housing Act, 1936	Nil	Nil
(*b*) Public Health Act, 1936	Nil	Nil

Complaints received and dealt with during the Year

Total number received	43
General disrepair of Dwellings	7
Others	36

Rodent Control

A rodent operative is employed for duties in both the Rural and Urban areas and works under the supervision of your Sanitary Inspectors.

Throughout the district a free service of rat disinfestation is afforded to residential property, while the cost of the work at business premises is rechargeable.

After deduction for rechargeable work, half the nett cost of wages, materials and travelling expenses is reimbursed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Number of Infestations found and dealt with during 1955 :

(*a*)	Private dwellings (including Council houses)	108
(*b*)	Business Premises	17
(*c*)	Local Authority Property	14

With the exception of sewer treatment and a few " follow-up " cases, Zinc Phosphide is no longer used, and has been superseded by *Warfarin*.

Sewer Treatment

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the treatment of sewers was carried out to ascertain any evidence of rat infestation.

The following table shows the results obtained.

June/July, 1955.

Locality	*No. of Manholes treated*	*Complete take of test bait*	*Partial take*	*No take*
Town Centre	23	6	3	9
Outlying districts	70	—	1	1

Treatment consisted of test baiting with damp sausage rusk, followed where necessary by addition of $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ Zinc Phosphide.

Nine Farms were visited to ascertain any evidence of rat infestation and all were found to be clear.

For the carrying out of all his general duties your Rodent Operative made 747 inspections and re-inspections.

Disinfection and Fumigation Work

In conjunction with his other work your rodent operative has carried out a considerable amount of disinfection and fumigation work, as follows :—

Tuberculosis	1 house
Scarlet Fever	2 houses
Beetle infestation }	
Cockroach infestation }	58 houses

For this section of his work 270 visits were made to the premises concerned.

Water Supply

All water supplied to the public is chlorinated. The quality of the chlorinated water has been satisfactory, but there has again been a shortage of supply in the higher parts of the supply area. The water supplied is not liable to Plumbo-solvent action. The number of dwelling houses supplied direct is 2,421 and the number of persons supplied direct is 7,471. No houses supplied by means of a standpipe. There are a certain number of houses supplied by means of an outside tap, which are gradually being reduced by informal arrangements with the owners to provide an indoor supply. 44 houses in your area have their own private supply.

A better distribution of water is now available, due to the laying of a new 10in. main from Bramshall Reservoir down Byrds Lane, to be linked up with theexisting 7in. and 5in. mains in Holly Road. (Completed in 1953).

A new chlorinating plant has been installed at Crumpwood.

Hulme Springs.—After Negotiation the Ministry has informed the Clerk that a licence is to be issued to sink three of these boreings to a depth of 100 feet and increasing their diameter to 12 inches.

Crumpwood Waterworks

An electric pump unit was installed and a new chlorinating plant installed in 1955.

Water consumption has now been reduced to 31 gallons per head per day, due to Waste Detection and the Metering of Trade supplies.

School Water Supply.—The water pressure at the Infant School is frequently low ; no complaints have been received from the Secondary Schools regarding water pressure.

Swimming Bath.—Due to the cost of replacement, it was decided at a more opportune time to provide an up-to-date swimming bath. There is no doubt that a strong demand for such a bath exists, and I feel this provision should be considered in the near future, but the cost will be high.

Water Analysis

Analyses, both chemical and bacteriological, have been carried out at regular intervals on samples of water from your district mains supply. During 1955 the reports of such analyses were consistently satisfactory for Crumpwood, Somersal and Bramshall supply, and specimen reports are appended below. The following are reports on samples taken during 1955.

Crumpwood Water After Chlorination

12th September, 1955—From a tap—" The Alders "

Chemical Analysis	*Parts per* 100,000
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F.	21.5
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	0.07
Chlorine	1.45
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	0.002
Appearance	Clear
Injurious Metallic Contamination	Nil
pH Value	7.4°
Hardness Before Boiling	*Not stated on report*
Hardness After Boiling	
Temporary Hardness	

This water is chemically of satisfactory quality.

Bacteriological Report on Sample taken on 20th September, 1955

Tap—" The Alders "

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37°C. —Nil per 100 ml.

Somersal Water Supply

Sample taken on the 20th December, 1955, from the tap in Mr. Deville's house, after chlorination and addition Voxsan and Soda Ash.

Chemical Analysis	*Parts per* 100,000
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F.	35.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	1.43
Chlorine	3.60
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	0.004
Appearance	Trace of Suspended Matter
Injurious Metallic Contamination	None
pH Value	6.8
Hardness Before Boiling	*Not stated on report*
Hardness After Boiling	
Temporary Hardness	

This water is chemically pure.

Bacteriological Report on Sample taken on 29th May, 1955

" The Lodge," Red Hill

Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37°C. —Nil per 100 ml.

Bramshall Water Supply—Well

The report of a chemical examination of a water sample taken on the 13th Setpember, 1955 (before chlorination) is as follows :—

Chemical Analysis	*Parts per* 100,000
Total Solid Matter at 212°F.	15.5
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	1.11
Chlorine	1.8
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	Nil
Appearance	Trace of suspended matter
Injurious Metallic Contamination	None
pH Value	5.2
Hardness Before Boiling	*Not stated in report*
Hardness After Boiling	
Temporary Hardness	

This water is chemically of satisfactory quality.

Bacteriological Report on Sample taken on the 20th September, 1955 (after Chlorination)—Well

Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37°C. —Nil per 100ml.

On 20th September, 1955 a sample of water was taken from a tap at the Recreation Ground—after chlorination—and the water was a mixture of Crumpwood and Bramshall main supply. Here the report was : Probable coliform per 100 ml.—Nil.

Bramshall Water Supply

The diverted water has not yet been taken into the supply, as the examination of that water is still unsatisfactory. All steps have been taken to avoid pollution of the gathering ground and an informal agreement has been made with the nearby farmer ; this has been possible through his kindness and understanding.

Water Schemes

New 10in. Trunk Water main from Prestwood to Rocester. It is hoped that this new main will be laid and put into service during the year 1956.

New 9in. Rising Main from Crumpwood Pumping Station to Prestwood Reservoir. It is hoped this will be carried out during the year 1956.

Additional Storage Reservoirs. Sanction is being sought from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for permision to construct one additional Reservoir at Prestwood of a capacity of 200,000 gallons and one at Bramshall for 250,000 gallons.

Drainage and Sewerage

The drainage and sewerage have been reasonably satisfactory during the year, except in heavy rainfall and the melting of snow, although the need for additional strom water tanks as reported in

the report for 1950 still exists. Plans are now prepared for the construction of a new trunk main from a point in Park Avenue to the Sewage Works, in order to deal effectively with the sewage from the new housing scheme. It has not been possible to carry out this work in 1955. The existing sewage disposal plant is now working at almost full capacity, but the effluent is satisfactory, The question of Flooding is under consideration, and the Consultants have been asked to advise on the abating of Flooding and to prepare a scheme for a general improvement.

Trade Waste from Wilts. United Dairies is discharged into the Hockley Brook after being treated by filtration, as the Council sewers and sewage purification works cannot deal with such a large amount of milk waste. During 1955 the discharge into the brook has shown improvement and no gross pollution occurred. (Report from Trent River Board).

Nightsoil Service

Twenty-four Pail Closets in the area are dealt with by U.R.D.C. Nightsoil Service at a cost of 1/- per closet for each emptying.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

The figures below are extracted from the Annual Report submitted by the Medical Officer of Health to the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

(1). Inspections by the Sanitary Inspector for purposes of provision as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	NUMBER OF		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Non-Mechanical	10	7	—	—
(2) Mechanical Factories	41	34	4	—
TOTAL	51	41	4	—

(2). Cases in which defects were found :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found	
	Found	Remedied
Inadequate ventilation	2	2
Insufficient Sanitary Conveniences	1	1
Unsuitable or defective Sanitary Conveniences	1	1

Outworkers.—There are no outworkers in the district.

HOUSING

During the year under review 74 houses were completed by this Authority and 16 houses were erected in the district by private enterprise.

1. Houses completed in 1955.

(*a*) Number of houses completed by Council—74.

Types

24 Houses Type " L " 2 Bedrooms
10 „ „ " K " 2 Bedrooms
10 „ „ " O " 3 Bedrooms
30 „ „ " Q " 3 Bedrooms

(*b*) Number of Houses erected by private enterprise—16.

(*c*) Number of Bungalows—Nil.

2. Houses under construction as at 31st December, 1955.

(*a*) Number of Houses under Construction by Council—28. Scheme 3—24 House Contract, Copes Park Estate, and 4 House Contract, New Road.

Types

4 Houses Type " D " 3 Bedrooms
10 „ „ " O " 3 Bedrooms
12 Houses Type " Q " 3 Bedrooms
2 „ „ " L " 2 Bedrooms

(*b*) Number of houses in course of erection by Private Enterprise —3.

3. Schemes for 1956.

16 House contract Scheme 4A, Cope's Park Estate.
20 House contract Scheme 4B, Cope's Park Estate.
8 House contract Scheme 4C, Cope's Park Estate.
4 House contract, Stage 1, Poor Law Site.
4 House contract, Stage 2, Poor Law Site.
24 House contract, Higher Salary Group, Byrd's Lane.
1 pair Old Aged Persons' Bungalows, Holly Grange Road.
34 House contract, Stage 1, Weaver Lodge Estate.

Breakdown of Types as below :—

(*a*) **16 House Contract Scheme 4A, Cope's Park Estate—**

8 Houses " Q " Type—3 bedrooms
4 „ "O" „ —3 bedrooms
4 „ " L " „ —2 bedrooms

(*b*) **20 House Contract Scheme 4B, Cope's Park Estate—**

4 Houses " R " Type—4 bedrooms
10 „ " Q " „ —3 bedrooms
6 „ " O " „ —3 bedrooms

(*c*) **8 House Contract Scheme 4C, Cope's Park Estate—**

4 Houses " O " Type—3 bedrooms
4 „ " Q " „ —3 bedrooms

(*d*) **4 Houses Contract Stage 1, Poor Law Site—**

4 Houses " L " Type—2 bedrooms

(*e*) **4 Houses Contract Stage 2, Poor Law Site—**

2 Houses " Q " Type—3 bedrooms
2 „ " R " „ —4 bedrooms

(*f*) **24 Houses Higher Salary Group, Byrds Lane—**

18 Houses " B " Type—3 bedrooms
6 „ " R3 " „ —3 bedrooms

(*g*) **1 pair O.A.P. Bungalows, Holly Grange Road—**

2 Bungalows " S " Type—2 Bedrooms

(*h*) **34 Houses Contract Stage 1, Weaver Lodge Estate—**

22 Houses " O " Type—3 bedrooms
12 „ " Q " „ —3 bedrooms

Summary of Projected Housing, 1956—

Type " R " 4 bedroomed houses	6
Type " Q " 3 bedroomed houses	36
Type " O " 3 bedroomed houses	36
Type " R3 " 3 bedroomed houses	6
Type " B " 3 bedroomed houses	18
Type " S " 2 bedroomed bungalows	2
Type " L " 2 bedroomed Houses	8
Total number of dwellings	112

The Council still owns land which awaits development, and is aware of the urgent need for the provision of services to allow of the further development of these housing estates, and is taking practicable steps to undertaken this very large and heavy task. A comprehensive layout has been prepared for the Weaver Lodge and Bentley Housing Estates, comprising some 104.9 acres. There is a scheme in preparation to erect more houses on the Bentley Housing Estate.

The Council, at the end of the year, had a waiting list of 242 applicants for houses ; during the year 53 new houses were allocated.

Details of Applicants for Council Houses—Annual Report to the Medical Officer of Health

1. No. on the waiting list on 1st January, 1955 was 283.
2. No. on the waiting list on 31st December, 1955 was 242.

3. **Classification of applicants according to type of house required.**

	Lodgers		*Householders*		
	New Houses	*Old Houses*	*New Houses*	*Old Houses*	*Total*
(*a*) Requiring 2 Bedroomed House	40	8	30	15	93
(*b*) Requiring 3 Bedroomed house	43	20	52	13	128
(*c*) Requiring 4 Bedroomed House	—	—	7	—	7
(*d*) Requiring Bungalows	—	—	11	3	14
	83	28	100	31	242

4. **Classification of applicants according to the reason for application.**

		Residents	*Non-Residents*	*Total*
(i)	Overcrowded : Lodgers	34	9	42
(ii)	Lodgers : Not overcrowded	57	11	68
(iii)	Householders : Overcrowded	23	7	30
(iv)	Householders in unfit houses	16	3	19
(v)	Householders requiring better or more suitable accommodation	63	19	82
		193	49	242

DETAILS OF COUNCIL HOUSES

(*a*)	Flats	20
(*b*)	Bungalows including Pre-Fabs	50
(*c*)	2 Bedroomed Houses	215
(*d*)	3 Bedroomed Houses	467
(*e*)	4 Bedroomed Houses	49
		801
(*f*)	Houses regarded as cottage property and owned by the Council	14
		815

HOUSING ACT, 1936

Section 11.

An undertaking has been given by respective owners of 8 houses not to re-occupy for human habitation when they become vacant and this will be followed by their demolition in due course.

11. Housing Statistics

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(i)	(*a*) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Act)	39
	(*b*) No. of inspections made for the purpose	84
(i)	(*a*) No. of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	6
	(*b*) No. of inspections made for the purpose	1
(iii)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	6
(iv)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	30

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	30

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(*a*) **Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of The Housing Act, 1936.**

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs Nil

(ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(*a*) By owners Nil

(*b*) By local authority in default of owners Nil

(*b*) **Proceedings under Public Health Act :**

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied Nil

(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(*a*) By owners Nil

(*b*) By local authority in default of owners Nil

(*c*) **Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.**

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made Nil

(ii) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sub-section (3) of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 2

(iii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Order Nil

(*d*) **Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.**

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil

(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit Nil

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

In accordance with the requirements of Section 1 of the above Act, a survey of the housing conditions in the area was carried out by your Sanitary Officers.

A report was prepared which embodied details of houses which should be dealt with under legal housing procedure within the next 5 years.

In the information submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government a total of 91 houses was stated to be unfit and should be dealt with within 5 years.

Of the 91 houses, 35 had been the subject of legal or other action, and it was decided therefore to proceed with the re-housing of occupants and demolition of the houses within the next 3 years. It is hoped that 24 houses will be dealt with in 1956.

Improvement Grants—Housing Act, 1949

No. Applied	*Refused*	*With-drawn*	*No. Granted*	*Total Value*	*Grant Value*
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
8	Nil	Nil	8	1,931 13 2	937 0 4

FOOD INSPECTION

Particulars of Food inspected during 1955

(*a*) Meat: Carcases inspected and condemnations made.

	Cows and Bulls	Heifers and Bullocks	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed and notified	209	498	22	2,007	2,879
No. inspected	209	498	22	2,007	2,879
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerosis					
Whole carcase condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Part or organ condemned	57	75	—	69	64
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	27.2%	15.1%	—	3.4%	2.3%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcase condemned	1	1	—	—	4
Part or organ condemned	67	56	—	—	115
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	32.5%	11.1%	—	—	4.1%
Cysticerosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Total weight of meat condemned for Tuberculosis	6,552-lbs.
Total weight of meat condemned for Other Diseases	2,744-lbs.
Total weight of meat condemned	9,296-lbs.

(*b*) **Other Foods condemned.**

	Lbs.	*Ozs.*
Tinned meat	424	1
Tinned fruit	229	1
Tinned tomatoes	206	7
Tinned vegetables	66	11
Tinned milk	10	0
Tinned frozen egg	22	0
Tinned fish	6	12
Tinned soup	68	0
	1,033 lbs.	0 ozs.

Total weight of all foods condemned—10,329-lbs.

Tons.	*Cwts.*	*Qs.*	*Lbs.*
(4	12	0	25)

Slaughterhouses

Within the Urban district are 4 slaughterhouses which are licenced for use until the 31st July, 1957.

These premises have proved adequate for the needs of the Urban area, and as a result of regular visits for meat inspection, the slaughterhouses were kept under constant supervision.

The premises generally are old, not well sited, and lack amenities, but in all the circumstances are well kept by the occupants.

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933-1954

In accordance with the above legislation 17 licences were granted for 12 months expiring on the 29th February, 1956.

In addition, 3 restricted licences were granted, such licences requiring that slaughter of animals must be carried out under supervision.

These latter licences also expire on the 29th February, 1956.

Food Preparing Premises, Shops, etc.

During the year the food preparing premises in the district were subjected to regular visits and inspections.

Where required by statute, the appropriate premises are registered, and these include 24 for the storage and sale of Ice Cream (this figure includes 2 premises where Ice Cream is manufactured) and 9 for the preparation of preserved food.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

During 1955 your Sanitary Inspectors made 28 visits in connection with licenced caravans temporarily stationed in the area.

Two unlicenced sites within the Urban area were used fairly extensively during the months May—September, and the caravans stationed were inspected regularly during the temporary siting.

Difficulties do arise but chiefly the caravan dwellers are of the nomadic dealer type, and no licences are granted by the Local Authority in respect of such temporary occupation.

INSPECTION OF LICENSED PREMISES

During 1955, considerable improvement has been effected. Two remain to be provided with separate sanitary accommodation.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

No Offensive Trades are carried on within the Urban area.

CONTEMPLATED SCHEMES

Water Supply

An additional supply of water is to be taken from the Hulme Springs at Alton, after which it is proposed to immediately collect such supply and convey it to the Pumping Station at Crumpwood and thence into general supply.

Additional Pumping Plant has been installed at Crumpwood ; this will be followed by a new rising main to Prestwood Reservoir.

An additional 10in. trunk main from Prestwood Reservoir to Rocester is to be laid which will afterwards be continued to Uttoxeter.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Consultant have been instructed to report on a scheme of improvement and enlargement of the exising works, bearing in mind the taking into such works, the trade effluent from the Wilts. United Dairies at Brookside, Uttoxeter, on terms to be agreed.

Technical information and appropriate data are being prepared by my department as requested from time to time by the Consultants.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

During 1955 the number of notifications received with respect to the various Infectious Diseases, other than Tuberculosis, was as follows :—

Infectious Disease	*Number of Cases*	*Admitted to Hospital*
Whooping Cough	9	—
Measles	179	—
Scarlet Fever	3	—
Erysipelas	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	Nil	—
Food Poisoning	4	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1	1
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	Nil	—
Diphtheria	1	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	2	2
Dysentery	Nil	—
Para-Typhoid	Nil	—
	202	4

Of these, no cases of Scarlet Fever were admitted to hospital. In 1955 there was one death from Influenza, and one notification was received for Diphtheria but the diagnosis was altered in Hospital.

There were 2 deaths from Secondary Pneumonia during 1955.

In 1955 no cases of Dysentery or of Ophthalmic Neonatorum were notified. The last proved case of Diphtheria was in 1947 and one case of Paralytic Poliomyelitis occurred in 1955 but diagnosis was altered in Hospital. The number of cases notified of Whooping Cough and Scarlet Fever have decreased. In the case of Measles the number has increased, the greater number occurred in the age group 5—9 years. In the case of Whooping Cough the greater number occurred in age group 3—4. The number of cases of Scarlet Fever for 1955 is the lowest on record since 1943.

Regarding Measles, the number of cases has increased from 1 in 1954 to 179 in 1955. The age groups involved were 1—2, 3—4 and 5—9.

With regard to the occurrence of Whooping Cough under 2 years the incidence was 44%.

The incidence in group (5—9 years) in Whooping Cough is 56%.

During 1955 the number of cases of Meales increased by 179%, and in the case of Whooping Cough only 9 cases occurred. With regard to the months in which most cases occurred, Whooping Cough, in July, September and December; Measles in April, May, June and July.

FOOD POISONING

In the second quarter of the year 4 cases were notified as Suspected Food Poisoning. They were all in the same family. On investigation the cause was not ascertained as no food specimens could be obtained.

Para-Typhoid B. Infection—None.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES—SCHOOLS

During 1955 visits were made to the Infants School with regard to Scarlet Fever and Measles—on each occasion no carrier was found and no missed cases found.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL ORIGINAL CASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE GROUP.

AGE PERIOD IN YEARS.

	Under 1 year		1—2 years		3—4 years		5—9 years		10—14 years		15—24 years		25 years and over		Totals		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Whooping Cough	–	–	–	4	2	1	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	6	9
Measles	2	3	19	16	29	25	39	45	–	–	–	1	–	–	89	90	179
Scarlet Fever ...	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	3	–	3
Erysipelas	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	2	1	2	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	1
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Cerebro Spinal Fever	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	2	2
Dysentery	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Food Poisoning	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1	1	1	2	2	4
Diphtheria	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASE—INCIDENCE IN 1955 COMPARED WITH TWELVE PREVIOUS YEARS.

Disease.	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943
Diphtheria ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (Non-civilian)	1	3	13	2 (1 Non-civilian)
Scarlet Fever ..	3	21	24	6	8	7	6	8	12	24	12	9	12 (1 Non-civilian)
Whooping Cough	9	14	22	60	32	49	32	40	—	19	5	11	56
Measles	179	1	19	114	6	194	17	22	89	2	63	149	13
Erysipelas ..	3	3	5	—	1	2	1	4	3	—	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1 (Non-civilian)
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—
Para Typhoid	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1955—MONTHS OF OCCURRENCE
ORIGINAL NOTIFICATIONS

Month	DISEASE.											
	Whooping Cough	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Dysentry	Pul. Tubercul.	Surg. Tub.	Diphtheria	Food Poisoning
January	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
March	—	13	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April	—	108	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
May	—	13	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
June	—	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
July	3	20	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
September	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
October	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
November	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
December	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	9	179	3	3	—	1	2	—	1	2	1	4

QUARTERLY RETURNS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR THIS URBAN DISTRICT FOR 1955—PROVED CASES

Quarter	DISEASE. Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Paralytic Poliomyelitis	Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	Measles	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Food Poisoning	Ophthalmia	Dysentery	Pneumonia	Typhoid	Paratyphoid	Puerperal Fever
First	1	1	—	—	14	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Second	1	—	—	—	144	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Third	—	5	—	—	20	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fourth	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	3	9	—	—	179	—	3	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—

For your information I append in table form the number of Infectious Diseases in each quarter for Urban Districts in this County. (25)

Quarter	DISEASE. Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid Fever	Acute Pneumonia	Dysentery	Paralytic Poliomyelitis	Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	Food Poisoning	TUBERCULOSIS Respiratory	TUBERCULOSIS CNS	TUBERCULOSIS Others
First	150	6	1	195	41	1	—	7	147	—	5
Second	103	2	—	85	52	—	1	21	146	3	13
Third	52	2	2	38	47	7	1	23	100	2	16
Fourth.....	162	1	1	72	157	12	5	23	119	—	12
TOTALS	467	11	4	390	297	20	7	74	512	5	46
Yearly Av. for all Urban Districts in Staffs. (25)	18.5	0.4	0.16	15.6	11.8	0.8	0.2	2.9	20.4	0.2	1.8

INFECTIOUS DISEASE—NOTIFICATIONS, YEAR 1955

Case-rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1955

Provisional figures based on Quarterly or Weekly Returns

	Uttoxeter Urban District Original	*England and Wales Original*
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—		
Typhoid Fever	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	0.02
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0.26	0.02*
Scarlet Fever	0.3	0.7
Whooping Cough	1.1	1.7*
Diphtheria	0.13	0.01
One notification, not a proven case		
Erysipelas	0.3	0.1*
Smallpox	—	—
Measles	23.4	15.5*
Pneumonia	—	0.6
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	0.13	0.09
Not a proven case		
do. (Non-Paralytic)	—	0.07
Food Poisoning	0.52	0.3
Dysentry	—	~~0.8~~ 0.3
Notifications (Corrected) Rates per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births :—		
Puerperal Pyrexia and Fever	—	17.79

For previous years the Registrar General has supplied the details for England and Wales, but this has been discontinued. Where possible I have recorded them, compiled from Returns issued Weekly and Quarterly.

The items marked with an " * " are for corrected cases.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the responsibility has passed to the Local Health Authority, upon which is laid the obligation to arrange for the immunisation of all persons in the area of the authority (Section 26). As in previous years it was possible during 1955 for parents to have their children immunised by their own family doctor free of charge. Immunisation was also available at the Infant Welfare Centre in Uttoxeter, and special immunising sessions were also held at the various schools in Uttoxeter.

The number of children in the Uttoxeter Urban District Council area who completed a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria during 1955 was as follows :—

Children of less than one year of age	32
Children aged 4—14 years of age	25
	57
Number of children aged 4—14 years who received a single reinforcing injection	78

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION SINCE 1944

Year	Number Protected		Total	Number receiving reinforcing doses
	Children under 1 year	Children 4—14 years		
1955	**32**	**25**	**57**	**78**
1954	17	42	59	135
1953	64	16	80	92
1952	78	28	106	174
1951	70	7	77	51
1950	50	10	60	12
1949	101	7	108	76
1948	100	62	162	74
1947	130	23	153	129
1946	105	2	107	NIL
1945	74	14	88	NIL
1944	51	2	53	NIL

The above figures refer only to children whose record of immunisation has been received in the public health department. The estimated percentage of the mid-1955 child population in your district immunised against Diphtheria up to the 31st December, 1955 was as follows :—

Under 4 years of age	79%
4—14 years of age	80%
All children	79%

During 1955 one notification was received with respect to this disease but diagnosis was altered in Hospital. The last case being in 1947.

Diphtheria Inoculations

The estimated percentage of child population in your district immunised against Diphtheria in 1955 has dropped in all age groups.

An inoculation campaign was held during 1955, but I should like to see the percentage of the under 4 years to be at least 80%.

I feel that the decrease in under 4 years is partially due to the mothers having their young children immunised against Whooping Cough in the first case, then having the Diphtheria Inoculations—thus the slight drop.

INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN THE UTTOXETER URBAN DISTRICT IN THE LAST SIXTEEN YEARS.

Year.	*Number of Cases Proved.*
1955	Nil
1954	Nil
1953	Nil
1952	Nil
1951	Nil
1950	Nil
1949	Nil
1948	Nil
1947	1 (Non-Civilian)
1946	1
1945	3
1944	13
1943	2 (Non-Civilian)
1942	3 „ „
1941	3
1940	3

Average annual incidence (including non-civilian cases), 1.8.

In England and Wales in 1955, there were 161 proved cases and 13 deaths. In Staffordshire—there were 11 proved cases in the Urban Districts and 19 in the Rural Districts. No deaths occurred in Staffordshire Administration Area but there was one death in Stoke-on-Trent.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases

Notifications were received during the year with respect to 1 case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 2 cases of Surgical Tuberculosis.

Deaths

There were no deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and none from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The age and sex distribution of these new cases and deaths were as shown below :—

New Cases.

Age Periods	Pulmonary Male	Pulmonary Female	Pulmonary Total	Non-Pulmonary Male	Non-Pulmonary Female	Non-Pulmonary Total
Under 1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Years	—	—	—	2	—	2
15 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 Years	—	1	1	—	—	—
45 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	—	1	1	2	—	2

Total New Cases — Three

One Pulmonary case was admitted to a sanatorium.

The cases of Surgical Tuberculosis were treated at home.

Deaths.

Age Periods	Pulmonary Male	Pulmonary Female	Pulmonary Total	Non-Pulmonary Male	Non-Pulmonary Female	Non-Pulmonary Total
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	—	—	—	—	—	—

Total Deaths None

Death Rate from Tuberculosis *Per* 1,000 *Population*

Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis NIL

Death Rate from other forms of Tuberculosis NIL

Death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis NIL

Tuberculosis in the Uttoxeter Urban District, showing for each of the last twelve years the new cases and the deaths, classified as Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary. The Death Rate per 1,000,000 population from all forms is also given.

Year	Population	New Cases		Deaths		Death Rates per 1,000,000 population
		Pul.	Non-Pul	Pul.	Non-Pul.	
1955	**7,580**	**1**	**2**	—	—	—
1954	7,530	2	—	—	—	—
1953	7,391	5	4	1	1	270
1952	7,400	1	2	–	–	—
1951	7,427	5	–	3	1	220
1950	7,330	5	1	1	1	270
1949	7,440	6	1	2	–	220
1948	7,280	6	4	2	1	412
1947	6,964	3	4	6	1	1,005
1946	6,838	7	1	4	–	580
1945	6,618	2	–	1	–	151
1944	6,791	3	–	6	–	884
1943	6,883	6	–	2	1	436

Table of Death Rates per 1,000 for other Districts in this County :—

Uttoxeter Rural District Nil.

Results of Milk Samples for 1955

The following results have been received from the County Medical Officer of Health :—

	Per. cent. Failed	*Results*			*Biological Test for T.B.*		*Per Cent*
		No. of Samples	*Examination for Cleanliness*				
			Passed	*Failed*	+	—	
Uttoxeter Urban	12.7%	62	54	8	1	15	6.2
Uttoxeter Rural	26.04%	192	142	~~60~~ 50	2	101	1.9

The test for cleanliness is known as the Methylene Blue Test. It is pleasing to note that the results for 1955 are low and lower than the 1954 figure. In the cases where the cleanliness examination was unsatisfactory I requested the co-operation of the Area Milk Production Officer. Where Tubercle Bacilli were found I enlisted the co-operation of the Ministry of Agriculture Inspector

UTTOXETER URBAN DISTRICT

Summary of Retail Milks sampled by the County Health Department during the year 1955. Taken on behalf of the Uttoxeter Urban District Council

Designation	No. of samples taken	Cleanliness test Methylene Blue		Phosphatase test (for Pasteurisation)		Biological test (for T.B.)		Turbidity test for Sterilization	
		Satis.	Unsatis.	Pass	Fail	Neg.	Pos.	Pass	Fail
Undesignated	16	10	6 (37.5%)	—	—	14	1 (6.6)%	—	—
Tuberculin Tested	3	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	16	15	1	16	—	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised	27	26	1	27	—	—	—	—	—
Sterilized	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	—
TOTAL	80	54	8	43	—	15	1	18	—

UTTOXETER URBAN DISTRICT

Details of samples taken during the period 1.1.55—31.12.55, by the County Food Inspectors under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Sections 1 and 2

Name of Article	*No. of samples submitted*	*Genuine*	*Adulterated*
Milk	1	1	
Pasteurised Milk	6	6	
Sterilized Milk	2	2	
T.T. Pasteurised Milk	2	2	
Channel Islands Milk	1	1	
Total Milk Samples	12	12	
Buttered Toast	1	1	
Curry Powder	1		1
Curry Powder	1 (*informal*)		1 (*informal*)
Table Jelly Crystals	1	1	
Orange Squash	1	1	
Coffee & Chicory Essence	1	1	
Pork Slice	1	1	
' Dextrosol ' Glucose Tablets	1	1	
' Macprin ' Buffered Asprin	1	1	
Dairy Milk Chocolate Caramels	1	1	
Damson Jam	1	1	
Sweet Chutney Pickle	1	1	
' Droxalin ' Tablets	1	1	
' Vigor ' Tonic	1		1
Ground Almonds	1	1	
Ice Cream	1	1	
Cheese Spread	1	1	
Pork Sausage (with preservative)	1	1	
Cheddar Cheese	1	1	
Fine Shred Marmalade	1	1	
Pork Luncheon Meat	1	1	
Margarine	1	1	
Full Cream Processed Cheese	1	1	
Invalide Toffee	1		1
Apricot Jam	1	1	
Self Raising Flour	1	1	

Total General Food Samples	25 (*informal*) 1 (*informal*)	22	3 (*informal*) 1 (*informal*)
Total No. of Samples	38	34	4

Action Taken—

Curry Powder	Contaminated with lead. Possibility of contamination being caused by containers taken up with firm. Analysis of drums used showed them to be scarcely contaminated. Suppliers safeguarding position in future.
Vigor Tonic Incorrectly Labelled	Labels being amended.
Invalide Toffee—Incomplete declaration of ingredients	Manufacturers have agreed to amend the labels as advised.

Samples taken at Dairies and " followed-up " at farms Uttoxeter Urban District

Name of Article	*No. of samples submitted*	*Genuine*	*Adulterated*
Milk	201	188	13
Milk, Tuberculin Tested	173	167	6
Total	374	355	19

" Appeal to Cow " samples.

	Up to standard	*Below standard*
Milk	16	19
Milk, Tuberculin Tested	22	10

Proceedings.

Milk containing added water. Fine £3. Special Costs £9 12s.

The reduction in number of Samples for Methylene Blue Test is due to the number of producers and retailers being now less than in 1954.

Control of Ice Lollies

Although no difficulties have been experienced in this area, I feel I should draw to your notice that there is at present no legal control.

Many areas are urging their Urban Association to press the Minister of Health to exercise his power and make a regulation laying down minimum standards of composition and authorising registration of Premises where the lollies are manufactured.

At present the examinations of such, yields a wide variation, the total solids, including sugars, range from 21% to 0.56%. Some contain a relatively large amount of saccharin. Some contain fruit juice, milk or ice cream—in this one case it is felt that this special type of lolly should be the subject of special standards.

Effect of Agenised Bread—Nitrogen Trichloride

To most flour used in the making of bread Agene is added to bleach the flour. It is claimed by certain doctors that Agene is at least one of the causative factors in human beings of nerve disorders and disease of the stomach. At present the Medical Research Council, in association with the Ministries of Food and Health, are investigating the question and no official report has been issued.

Fog

Fog occurred in January and March, also in the last three months of the year—11 days in 1955—No Smog.

Total Rainfall

26.70 inches. 2.12 inches less than Long Period Average. There were 180 rainless days—Longest dry period was in July for 14 days.

Snow

9.5 inches. 4 inches in January and in February—$\frac{1}{2}$ inch in March and 1 inch in December.

Total Sunshine

1,506 hours. 157 hours over average. There were 88 sunless days.

Winds

January	Westerly and Cold Easterly.
February	Cold East but mainly North-West.
March	Cold East and South-West.
April	Westerly.
May	Westerly.
June	Westerly.
July	Variable
August	North-Easterly and Westerly.
September	Westerly.
October	North-Westerly.
November	Variable.
December	Variable.

WEATHER SUMMARY

Monthly, 1955

January
Cold and dry.

February
Cold and bright.

March
Cold and Bright.

April
A warm month.

May
A cold month.

June
Wet, dull and cool with 3.92 inches of rain.

July
Hot and sunny—Record sunshine for this area for July.

August
Warm and dry.

September
Warm and sunny.

October
Bright and sunny.

November
Dry.

December
Warm.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROPAGANDA

No exhibition was staged during 1955, but during the year advisory information was sent to all food shops, cafes and canteens.

Dog Notice cards are displayed in Food Shops, Cafes and Restaurants but to a lesser degree than in 1954.

I am glad to report that all help was accepted in the spirit in which it was sent—To Help.

Number of Food Shops of all types, 67.

Number of Ice Cream Shops, 24.

Number of Premises Registered for Manufacture of Sausages, etc., 9.

Number " Registered " as Dairies is 8.

The above shops are regularly inspected as well as the foods sold.

SUMMARY OF MONTHLY REPORTS, 1955

Details supplied by Mr. Smith, Meteorological Station, 2nd Order, sited at factory of Messrs. C. H. Elkes & Sons, Uttoxeter—295 ft. above M.S.L.

Month	Shade Temperature Mean Mean Max. Min. degrees F.	Mean Earth Temperature at 4ft. degrees F.	Mean Humidity at 9 hours %	Total Rainfall "	No. of days with 0.01" or more	No. of days with 0.04" or more	Temperature Max. Min. degrees F.	Total Sunshine hours	No. of days of			Thunder	Fog Visibility under 500 yds.	Ground Frost 30.4 degrees or under	In Millimetres. Air Pressure. Min. Max.
									Snow	Snow lying at 9 hrs.	Max. depth noted ins.				
Jan.	40.2—29.5	38.5	81.7	2.42"	17	13	52—12	32¾	9	11	4"	—	3	14	739—768
Feb.	39.2—27.1	37.3	81	2.03"	13	11	52—14	80¾	10	15	4"	—	—	23	733—767
March	44.8—29.7	35.5	79	2.64"	9	6	53—19	142¼	6	2	½"	—	2	23	740—758
April	57.5—39.5	42.7	80.2	1.69"	13	11	66—29	152¾	—	—	—	—	—	8	748—772
May	57.5—40	46.4	78.2	3.07"	19	14	71—30	193¾	1	—	—	1	—	6	740—764
June	64 —47	52.4	78.7	3.92"	16	12	74—33	110¾	—	—	—	—	—	1	Mean of 757
July	74.8—52.2	57.9	70	1.03"	4	4	84—47	246½	—	—	—	2	—	—	Mean of 761
August	74.6—53.7	60.3	80	1.17"	9	6	83—43	173½	—	—	—	1	—	—	Not Given
Sept.	66.2—46.8	57.3	83	2.11"	14	10	78—36	145	—	—	—	1	—	—	749—768
Oct.	57.1—38.3	51.7	84	1.83"	13	11	70—21	134½	—	—	—	—	2	8	736—766
Nov.	49.9—36.3	45.3	86	2.34"	9	7	62—22	56¾	—	—	—	—	2	13	742—774
Dec.	47.1—33.6	41.5	83.7	2.45"	21	18	57—17	37½	2	3	1"	—	2	14	730—768

Action under the National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47 or Section 48, National Assistance Amendment Act, 1951

During 1955 no Court action was necessary, as all cases were persuaded to go to a Home or to relations, or to be cared for at home by a friend or relations.

MILK SAMPLING RESULTS—1955

Completed from Reports received by the Public Health Department during the year

1. **Methylene Blue Test—A test for Bacterial Activity**
 62 Milk Samples Tested—of which 54 passed and 8 failed.
2. **Phosphates Test—for efficiency of Pasteurisation**
 43 samples were tested and all passed.
3. **Bacteriological Test for Tubercle Bacilli**
 16 samples were tested—15 passed and 1 failed.
4. **Turbidity Test—for efficiency of Sterilization**
 18 tested—all passed.
5. **Test for Abortus Fever Germ**
 None required.
6. **Diversion Orders**
 One was placed on the milk which yielded the positive biological test for six weeks. The offending animal was traced and it was found to have tuberculosis when killed and examined by the Veterinary Surgeon.

Action under Diseases of Animals Act

1. **Anthrax Order—1938**
 No notification received.
2. **Tuberculosis Order—1938**
 One animal dealt with—Internal Tubercular Lesion found.
3. **Swine Fever—1938**
 No notifications received.

Action under Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

During 1955 it was found necessary to place one Diversion Order, in the one case where the biological test was found positive as the milk, before being used by the public, was not subjected to heat treatment (pasteurised), and in such a case the regulations allow an order.

Clean Food Guild

During 1954 the question of a Clean Food Guild was reconsidered by the Public Health Committee, and it was considered a wise step, but it was decided to postpone the formation of such a Guild for the present and until the New Food and Drug Act became legal.

Joint Committee for the Care of the Aged

The Joint Committee met at regular periods, and the Home was fully occupied.

The Home serves a most useful purpose and they are well cared for and lastly, they are happy.

I should like to convey my personal thanks to all who made the Home a reality and to all who have the administration of Kirk House. I feel that the venture has been a great success.

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